

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A junction for joining at least one first section of conduit to at least one second section of conduit, the junction comprising:  
  
a body, having at least one first connecting portion for connecting a respective first section of conduit to said body and at least one second connecting portion for connecting a second respective section of conduit to said body, the body defining a volume extending between at least one said first connecting portion and at least one second connecting portion, and having at least one aperture allowing access to said volume;  
  
at least one lid engagable with said body and adapted to close the or each aperture; and  
  
at least one earth connector located within said body and having at least one open channel adapted to receive at least one earthed electrical cable in electrical contact with said body wherein at least one said channel is closed when at least one said lid closes the or each aperture.
2. (Original) A junction according to claim 1, wherein at least one said connecting portions is a threaded aperture adapted to receive a respective conduit section, said conduit section having a substantially circular cross-section.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A junction according to claim ~~6~~1,  
wherein said  
channel ~~between said first and second access apertures~~ is substantially linear.

8. (Currently Amended) A junction according to claim ~~6~~1,  
wherein said  
channel ~~between said first and second access apertures~~ is substantially U-  
shaped.

9. (Previously Presented) A junction according to claim 1, wherein said  
electrical contact with said body is maintained by a cable retainer.

10. (Original) A junction according to claim 9, wherein said  
cable retainer comprises:  
a threaded portion of at least one side of said channel; and  
at least one screw adapted to be received in said threaded portion.

11. (Original) A junction according to claim 9, wherein said  
cable retainer comprises at least one clamp adapted to engage said earth cable and press said  
earth cable into contact with said body.

12. (Previously Presented) A junction according to claim 1, wherein said  
body is cast.

13. (Currently Amended) A junction according to claim ~~9~~12, wherein said  
earth connector is cast as a part of said body.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)